

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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April 5, 2013

Re: DE 10-188, 2011 CORE Electric Programs and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs  
Approval of Electric Utilities' Use of 2012 RGGI Funds per Order No. 25,425

To the Parties:

On February 12, 2013, the electric utilities filed amended budgets to allocate \$1,190,000 in additional Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funding as authorized by the Commission in its Order No. 25,425, dated October 17, 2012. As part of the amended budgets, the electric utilities requested authority to increase the 2012 Home Energy Assistance (HEA) program spending cap from \$5,000 to \$8,000 and to allow for the replacement of space heating and water heating equipment in low income homes at installed costs of approximately \$5,000 to \$6,500 for ENERGY STAR® heating systems and \$1,000 to \$1,900 for water heaters. The changes are associated with \$1,190,000 in additional funds previously authorized by the Commission as well as the electric utilities' proposed 2012 RGGI HEA budget of \$300,000 also authorized in Order No. 25,425. The electric utilities' filing was supported by Office of the Consumer Advocate, The Way Home, Office of Energy & Planning, Department of Environmental Services, Jordan Institute, and the Community Action Agencies. Staff filed a recommendation on February 27, 2013 supporting the allocation of the additional RGGI funds to the HEA program and associated program changes. The Commission received no objections to the request.

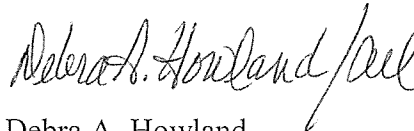
On March 21, 2013, the electric utilities filed an assented-to request to amend its 2012 RGGI HEA filing stating that certain information relied upon in their February 12, 2013 proposal had changed. The original proposal called for the replacement of certain space and water heating equipment with ENERGY STAR® certified equipment in manufactured homes. In 2012, however, federal agencies changed the energy efficiency requirements for furnace fans such that furnaces for manufactured homes no longer qualify under the ENERGY STAR program. The electric utilities stated that they wished to continue using the 2012 RGGI funds in the HEA program to replace aged and inefficient systems with systems having annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) greater than or equal to 85 percent without the requirement that they be ENERGY STAR certified noting that the furnaces are not only highly efficient but more efficient than the systems they replace.

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The Commission has determined that the electric utilities' filing of February 12, 2013 as modified by the March 21, 2013 request to use highly efficient furnaces rather than ENERGY STAR furnaces is consistent with the intent of Order No. 25,425. Accordingly, the program changes for the 2012 Core HEA program have been approved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Docket-Related Service List (electronically)  
Docket File

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**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 10-188-1      Printed: April 08, 2013

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRA A HOWLAND  
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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.

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